

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 158583
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:PWLANDE:LB

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-----095450 080143Z /65

O 080131Z JUL 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 158583

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PK, US, NMUC, PINT

SUBJECT: PAKISTAN-U.S. RELATIONS

REFERENCE: ISLAMABAD 6942

1. WE CONCUR IN THE DESIRABILITY OF AN EARLY EXCHANGE OF
VIEWS WITH ZIA ON THE FULL RANGE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS.
YOU ARE THEREFORE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE AN APPROACH TO GENERAL
ZIA DRAWING ON THE POINTS CONTAINED IN PARA 3 REFTEL. FOR
THE REASONS NOTED BELOW, WE WOULD EXPECT THE PARTICULAR
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FOCUS TO BE ON THE REPROCESSING ISSUE. WE ARE WORKING ON
APPROACHES TO THE FRENCH AND THE IRANIANS.

2. WE HAVE RELIABLE INFORMATION THAT THE NEW GOVERNMENT
HAS APPROACHED THE FRENCH REQUESTING THAT THE TRANSFER OF
NUCLEAR REPROCESSING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY BE COMPLETED
IN THE NEAR FUTURE. IT IS IMPORTANT, SINCE ZIA MAY NOT BE

AWARE OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF PROCEEDING WITH THE REPROCESSING DEAL, THAT YOU INFORM ZIA THAT WE WILL HAVE TO FACE THE ISSUE OF THE SYMINGTON AMENDMENT IN CONNECTION WITH PROSPECTIVE AID AGREEMENTS COMING UP FOR APPROVAL WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, IF NUCLEAR TRANSFERS CONTINUE. MOREOVER, WHILE THE SYMINGTON AMENDMENT DOES NOT LEGALLY BAR US FROM CASH SALES OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT, AS A PRACTICAL MATTER IT

SEEMS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT A SIGNIFICANT MILITARY SUPPLY ARRANGEMENT COULD BE MAINTAINED WERE OUR NEGOTIATIONS ON THE NUCLEAR QUESTION TO BREAK DOWN AND THE SYMINGTON AMENDMENT TO BE APPLIED.

3. YOU MAY FIND IT USEFUL TO REVIEW THE ECONOMIC AS WELL AS THE NON-PROLIFERATION ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REPROCESSING PLANT. IN OUR VIEW, PAKISTAN'S ENERGY NEEDS WOULD APPEAR BEST MET BY DEVELOPMENT OF ITS HYDROELECTRIC RESOURCES. NEVERTHELESS, IF PAKISTAN WISHES TO DEVELOP NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY THIS WOULD CAUSE NO PROBLEMS WITH US AND WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO COOPERATE IN DEVELOPING ASSURED SUPPLIES OF NUCLEAR FUEL. OUR OBJECTIVE IS NOT TO BLOCK PAKISTAN'S ACCESS TO NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY, BUT RATHER TO LIMIT NUCLEAR ACTIVITIES WHICH COULD LEAD TO A WEAPONS POTENTIAL. THE SAFEGUARDS ROUTE IS INEFFECTIVE WITH RESPECT TO REPROCESSING PLANTS.

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4. BEGIN FYI. OUR OBJECTIVE REMAINS CANCELLATION OR INDEFINITE POSTPONEMENT OF THE TRANSACTION BUT AT LEAST A POSTPONEMENT OF DELIVERIES WOULD GIVE US TIME TO SEE WHAT COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED WITH THE FRENCH AND/OR A SUCCESSOR REGIME IN PAKISTAN. END FYI.
VANCE

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NNN

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Control Number: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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